

# House Concurrent Resolution No. 12

## 93RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

4357L.011

---

### AN ACT

Relating to the designation of hepatitis C awareness day in Missouri.

---

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:*

1           **Whereas**, five million Americans have been infected with the Hepatitis C virus  
2 (HCV) according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which contributes to  
3 approximately 8,000 to 10,000 deaths each year; and  
4

5           **Whereas**, it is estimated that 130,000 Missourians are infected with HCV. Such  
6 number does not include incarcerated persons, homeless persons, hospitalized persons, active  
7 duty military personnel, nursing home residents, and illegal immigrants; and  
8

9           **Whereas**, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has reported that HCV  
10 is associated with end stage liver disease and is the most frequent indication for liver  
11 transplantation among adults in the United States; and  
12

13           **Whereas**, HCV is spread five times more often than HIV, with many persons  
14 infected with HCV unaware because HCV is asymptomatic until advanced liver damage  
15 develops; and  
16

17           **Whereas**, each year 1% to 4% of persons infected with HCV will develop liver  
18 cancer. As the only cancer on the rise, the incidence of liver cancer has more than doubled and  
19 is expected to more than double again in the next decade; and  
20

21           **Whereas**, the HCV epidemic is expected to result in 3.1 million years of life lost  
22 by 2019 and, if left unchecked, the estimated costs to the United States to treat HCV will exceed  
23 \$85 billion for the years 2010 to 2019; and  
24

25       **Whereas**, awareness of testing and counseling is critical to halting the spread of  
26 blood-born pathogens:  
27

28       **Now, therefore, be it resolved** that the members of the House of  
29 Representatives of the Ninety-third General Assembly, Second Regular Session, the Senate  
30 concurring therein, hereby designate the tenth day of May each year as "Hepatitis C Awareness  
31 Day" in Missouri and recommend to the people of Missouri that the day be appropriately  
32 observed through activities which will increase Hepatitis C awareness, education, tolerance, and  
33 understanding; and  
34

35       **Be it further resolved** that this resolution be sent to the Governor for his  
36 approval or rejection pursuant to the Missouri Constitution.